

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ABU DH 00072 081212Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W

-----081216Z 113647 /13

R 080935Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO USDOC WQSHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5436

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 0072

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BGEN EAGR ECRE TC

SUBJ: COMMERCIAL INQUIRIES: DESERT GREENERY IN ABU DHABI

1. RASHID AWEIDHA, PROMINENT ABU DHABI BUSINESSMAN AND POLITICIAN (WTDR ON HIS ABU DHABI TRADING CO. DTD 4/72 AND MORE RECENT INFO IN ABU DHABI 2195) APPROACHED EMBOFFS WITH QUERY ABOUT US FIRMS CAPABILITY TO INCREASE DESERT GRASS/SHRUB COVERAGE. HE SAYS THAT HE COULD ARRANGE LARGE GOVERNMENT CONTRACT (50-100 MILLION DOLLARS) FOR SUCH WORK, IF PRELIMINARY SMALLER SCALE EFFORT WERE PROMISING.

2. AWEDHA'S REATIONALE IS THAT TREE PLANTATION IN DESERT IS INITIALLY EXPNSIVE AND REQUIRES CONTINUING MAINTENANCE COSTS FOR IRRIGATION. PRESENT IDEA IS TO CAPITALIZE ON EXISTING SPARSE SPONTANEOUS VEGETATION AND ATTEMPT TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR ITS MORE WIDESPREAD, NATURAL PROPAGATION SO THAT EXPENSIVE MAINTENANCE IS REDUCED IF NOT ELIMINATED. HE CLAIMS THAT IF SOMEONE SHOWS HIM HOW THIS CAN CAN BE DONE THEN HE CAN OBTAIN CONTRACT TO DO IT THROUGH PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH SHAYKH ZAYED, WITH WHOM HE HAS DISCUSSED SUBJECT AT LENGTH.

3. AFTER PERMITTING SELF TO BE DISABUSED OF NOTION THAT ONE TIME WATER AND SEED SPRAYED FROM AIRPLANE WOULD CAUSE DESERT TO BLOOM AS SOMEONE TOLD ZAYED TOOK PLACE IN KUWAIT, AWEIDHA UNCLASSIFIED

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FOCUSSED ON NEED TO FIND LOW-COST, NON LABOR INTENSIVE MECHANISM FOR INTERVENTION INTO ECOLOGICAL BALANCE THAT WOULD PERMIT SPONTANEOUS VEGETATION TO EXPAND COVERAGE. CLOUD SEEDING WAS DISCUSSED AND AWEIDHA IS INTERESTED SINCE HE FEELS INSTINCTIVELY THAT AIRPLANES ARE ANSWER. LACK OF EMBOFFS KNOWLEDGE PRECLUDED OTHER SUGGESTIONS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: USDOC SHOULD CONTACT REPUTABLE FIRMS INCLUDING WEATHER MODIFIERS CAPABLE OF EXPLAINING WHAT IS INVOLVED AND SUGGEST THAT, IF INTERESTED, THEY CONTACT DIRECTLY::

RASHID AWEIDHA  
TELEX 2563 AH ALAWEIDHA  
PO BOX 5  
TEL. 41192

KEITH DAVIS OF US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, ON REIMBURSABLE DETAIL IN UAE, SUGGESTS CONTACTING DR. CALVIN CLYDE DEAN, UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY, LOGAN, UTAH, WHO IS LEADING EXPERT ON ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION OF CLOUDS.

DICKMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RECLAIMED LAND, CONTRACTS, PLANTS (FLORA)  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** COMMERCIAL INQUIRIES: DESERT GREENERY IN ABU DHABI  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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